



MI-CW2011

# Michigan Crop Weather

May 16, 2011

## “Peek-a Boo” Rain

Four days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 15, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation ranged from 1.22 inches to 1.54 inches in the Upper Peninsula and 0.95 to 2.26 inches in the Lower Peninsula. Temperatures were 3 degrees above normal in the Upper Peninsula and ranged from 3 to 7 degrees above normal in the Lower Peninsula. It has been a slow start to this year’s planting, but producers were finally able to make progress this week in dryer fields. Farmers in the Lower Peninsula took advantage of nice weather early in the week to advance their spring activities; however, rains at the end of the week again stopped progress. Activities included, spreading of manure, planting of various crops and vegetables, and applications of herbicide and nitrogen.

## Field Crops

Growers in the lower two-thirds of the Lower Peninsula made significant planting progress during the middle of the week until rain fell Friday thru Sunday. Several fields became water logged and had wash outs. After the rains this weekend, “standing water was a common sight,” reported a grower in Sanilac County. A grower in Oceana County reported “a lot of **corn** went in the ground (early) this week and the first emergence was observed.” Some farmers used secondary tillage before planting to help fields dry out. **Wheat** was in Feekes growth stage 7 in southern counties and growers were applying nitrogen when conditions and time allowed. **Alfalfa** growth increased and weevil feeding began. **Soybeans** were planted as quickly as possible when conditions allowed. **Oats** and **barley** were planted and emergence continued. Sugarbeet planting made significant progress and was nearly complete with some early planted fields being replanted. Weed control in all fields was a growing concern.

Soil moisture for week ending 05/15/11

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	0	0	51	49
Subsoil	0	2	61	37

Crop condition for week ending 05/15/11

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	1	5	31	46	17
Oats	3	4	32	47	14
Pasture	3	7	27	48	15
Winter Wheat	1	4	23	54	18

## Fruit

Fruit growth advanced rapidly with the advent of warm weather but was still behind normal. Insect activity increased; oriental fruit moth pear psylla, obliquebanded leafroller, and spotted tentiform leafminers were among pests caught or seen in orchards. **Apple** scab control has been a high priority; apples were at tight cluster to early pink. **Tart cherries** were in early bloom while **sweet cherries** were at full bloom to early petal fall. Growers sprayed to prevent brown rot. **Grapes** were at bud burst. **Blueberries** ranged from early to late pink. Standing water in fields has made fungicide application difficult. **Strawberry** flower trusses began emerging, and there was substantial leaf growth. **Peaches** were at pink to full bloom.

## Vegetables

Warmth this week provided the opportunity for vegetable farmers to get into the field and catch up on planting and other fieldwork. Planting continued at a rapid pace until rain and cool weather again halted fieldwork over the weekend. **Asparagus** harvest progressed rapidly this week because of the warm weather, but is still behind average. **Sweet corn** was planted at a brisk pace this past week. **Carrots** continued to be planted, and for the most part growers have made up for planting delays. Warm season crops planted under tunnels, including **tomatoes**, **cucumbers**, **squash**, and **zucchini**, were being established and are growing because of the warmth. **Radishes**, **lettuce**, and **peas** are growing well. **Onion** planting is nearing completion. **Celery** transplanting continued. **Snap beans** for processing are still behind schedule.

Crop progress for week ending 05/15/11

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Asparagus, harvested	19	4	25	26
Barley, planted	42	16	89	74
Barley, emerged	12	2	71	47
Corn, planted	41	8	80	68
Corn, emerged	3	0	42	25
Oats, planted	67	40	98	92
Oats, emerged	26	10	87	70
Potatoes, planted	36	NA	62	53
Soybeans, planted	15	3	36	34
Sugarbeets, planted	95	45	100	98

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 05/15/11 <sup>1</sup>

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days <sup>2</sup>			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2011	2010	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	75	37		124	209		1.31	1.40	3.11	5.01		
Marquette	73	36		123	194		1.80	1.84	4.15	6.38		
Stephenson	74	38		144	264		1.11	1.14	3.58	5.62		
Western UP	75	36	3	126	214	162	1.54	1.58	3.18	5.11	3.84	3.37
Cornell	69	37		114	236		0.69	0.69	2.03	4.15		
Sault St Marie	68	40		115	206		0.75	0.75	3.87	6.28		
Eastern UP	74	34	3	112	207	97	1.22	1.29	3.38	5.78	4.01	3.01
Beulah	81	45		182	268		2.17	2.22	5.55	9.28		
Lake City	84	33		188	258		1.69	1.76	5.00	7.92		
Old Mission	79	42		145	269		1.61	1.61	4.20	6.03		
Pellston	76	31		169	253		0.93	0.94	4.29	6.36		
Northwest	84	31	4	162	250	197	1.56	1.58	4.47	6.75	4.01	2.61
Alpena	69	32		138	241		1.51	1.55	5.78	8.17		
Houghton Lake	85	34		205	276		1.92	2.00	5.85	8.22		
Rogers City	65	40		98	218		1.00	1.01	3.22	5.61		
Northeast	86	32	3	161	259	183	1.17	1.22	4.90	7.35	3.98	2.76
Fremont	83	45		231	307		0.61	0.63	3.92	5.83		
Hart	82	41		199	271		0.76	0.85	3.67	5.08		
Muskegon	83	47		243	303		0.90	0.90	4.55	6.19		
West Central	86	33	7	218	288	234	0.95	0.98	4.21	5.87	4.42	2.67
Alma	83	39		210	306		1.35	1.36	5.50	7.10		
Big Rapids	85	37		215	297		1.22	1.25	7.02	9.97		
Central	87	37	6	220	303	259	1.51	1.53	5.45	7.20	4.51	2.79
Bad Axe	80	38		188	293		1.19	1.36	5.77	8.41		
Pigeon	82	38		195	294		0.49	0.58	4.32	6.44		
Saginaw	84	42		241	332		1.50	1.53	5.96	7.90		
Standish	79	35		184	298		0.59	0.66	5.53	7.79		
East Central	84	35	3	191	301	245	1.61	1.69	5.96	8.03	3.88	2.63
Fennville	86	39		246	338		1.30	1.34	5.42	6.84		
Grand Rapids	85	44		283	373		1.88	1.90	7.60	9.18		
Holland	87	46		307	374		2.80	2.85	7.15	8.67		
South Bend, IN	87	49		310	399		3.36	3.76	8.54	11.21		
Watervliet	87	42		268	366		1.86	2.01	6.42	8.10		
Southwest	89	35	7	272	368	286	1.98	2.11	6.55	8.20	4.86	3.01
Belding	86	36		234	318		1.73	1.74	7.14	8.45		
Coldwater	88	40		281	389		1.59	1.92	5.05	6.86		
Lansing	85	41		254	364		3.03	3.05	7.33	8.65		
South Central	88	36	6	251	354	285	2.26	2.36	6.52	8.09	4.68	2.92
Detroit	83	44		286	404		0.89	0.99	5.24	7.25		
Flint	85	38		272	357		2.49	2.61	6.65	8.30		
Romeo	78	40		215	323		3.77	3.89	6.99	8.59		
Tipton	87	41		272	374		1.05	1.31	5.83	7.86		
Toledo, OH	84	41		258	429		1.78	1.90	5.49	7.05		
Southeast	90	35	5	260	381	268	1.89	1.92	5.73	7.33	4.61	2.85

<sup>1</sup> Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

<sup>2</sup> Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.